

# RAP

**RANT**. *n. f.* [from the verb.] High sounding language unsupported by dignity of thought.  
 Dryden himself, to please a frantick age,  
 Was fore'd to let his judgment stoop to rage,  
 To a wild audience he conform'd his voice,  
 Comply'd to custom, but not err'd through choice;  
 Deem then the people's, not the writer's sin,  
 Almanfor's rage, and rants of Maximin. *Graville.*  
 This is a frolic rant, without any foundation in the nature  
 of man or reason of things. *Atterbury's Preface.*  
**RANTER**. *n. f.* [from rant.] A ranting fellow.  
**RANTIPOLE**. *adj.* [this word is wantonly formed from rant.]  
 Wild; roving; rakish. A low word.  
 What at years of discretion, and comport yourself at this  
 rantipole rate! *Congreve's Way of the World.*  
**TO RANTIPOLE**. *v. n.* To run about wildly. It is a low word.  
 The eldest was a termagant imperious wench; she used to  
 rantipole about the house, pinch the children, kick the ser-  
 vants, and torture the cats and dogs. *Arbutnot.*  
**RANULA**. *n. f.* [Latin.]  
*Ranula* is a soft swelling, possessing those falivars under the  
 tongue: it is made by congestion, and its progress filth up  
 the space between the jaws, and maketh a tumour externally  
 under the chin. *Wijeman's Surgery.*  
**RANUNCULUS**. *n. f.* Crowfoot.  
*Ranunculus* excel all flowers in the richness of their col-  
 ours: of them there is a great variety. *Mortimer.*  
**TO RAP**. *v. n.* [hæppan, Saxon.] To strike with a quick  
 smart blow.  
 Knock me at this gate  
 And rap me well, or I'll knock your knave's pate. *Shakefp.*  
 With one great peal they rap the door,  
 Like footmen on a visiting day. *Prior.*  
 He was provoked in the spirit of magistracy, upon disco-  
 vering a judge, who rapped out a great oath at his footman.  
*Addison.*  
**TO RAP**. *v. a.* [from *rapio extra se*, Lat.]  
 1. To affect with rapture; to strike with extasy; to hurry out  
 of himself.  
 These are speeches of men, not comforted with the hope  
 of that they desire, but rapped with admiration at the view  
 of enjoyed bliss. *Hooker.*  
 Beholding the face of God, in admiration of so great  
 excellency, they all adore him; and being rapt with the love  
 of his beauty, they cleave inseparably for ever unto him. *Hook.*  
 What, thus raps you? are you well? *Shakefp.*  
 The government I cast upon my brother,  
 And to my state grew stranger, being transported  
 And rapt in secret studies. *Shakefp.*  
 You're rapt in some work, some dedication  
 To the great lord. *Shakefp. Timon of Athens.*  
 I'm rapt with joy to see my Marcia's tears. *Addis. Cato.*  
 It is impossible duly to consider these things, without being  
 rapt into admiration of the infinite wisdom of the divine ar-  
 chitect. *Cheyne's Philosophical Principles.*  
 Rapt into future times, the bard begun,  
 A virgin shall conceive, a virgin bear a son!  
 Let heav'n seize it, all at once 'tis fir'd,  
 Not touch'd, but rapt; not waken'd, but inspir'd. *Pope.*  
 2. To snatch away.  
 He leaves the welkin way most beaten plain,  
 And rapt with whirling wheels, inflames the skyen,  
 With fire not made to burn, but fairly for to flyne. *F. 2.*  
 Underneath a bright sea flow'd  
 Of Jasper, or of liquid pearl, whereon  
 Who after came from earth, failing arriv'd  
 Wafted by angels, or flew o'er the lake  
 Rap'd in a chariot drawn by fiery steeds. *Milton.*  
 Standing on earth, not rapt above the pole. *Milton.*  
**TO RAP and rend**. [more properly rap and ran; ræpan, Saxon,  
 to bind, and ræpa, Islandick, to plunder.] To seize by  
 violence.  
 Their husbands robb'd, and made hard shifts  
 To administer unto their gifts  
 All they could rap and rend and pilfer,  
 To scraps and ends of gold and silver. *Hudibras, p. ii.*  
**RAP**. *n. f.* [from the verb.] A quick smart blow.  
 How comest thou to go with thy arm tied up? has old  
 Lewis given thee a rap over thy fingers ends? *Arbutnot.*  
**RAPACIOUS**. *adj.* [rapace, Fr. rapax, Lat.] Given to plun-  
 der; seizing by violence.  
 Well may thy Lord, appeas'd,  
 Redeem thee quite from death's rapacious claim. *Milton.*  
 Shall this prize,  
 Soon heighten'd by the diamond's circling rays,  
 On that rapacious hand for ever blaze? *Pope.*  
**RAPACIOUSLY**. *adv.* [from rapacious.] By rapine; by violent  
 robbery.  
**RAPACIOUSNESS**. *n. f.* [from rapacious.] The quality of  
 being rapacious.  
**RAPACITY**. *n. f.* [rapacitas, Lat. rapacitas, Fr. from rapax.]  
 Addictedness to plunder; exercise of plunder; ravenousness.

# RAP

Any of these, without regarding the pains of churchmen,  
 grudge them those small remains of ancient piety, which the  
 rapacity of some ages has scarce left to the church. *Sprat.*  
**RAP**. *n. f.* [rapt, Fr. raptus, Latin.]  
 1. Violent delirium of chaffity.  
 You are both decypher'd  
 For villains mark'd with rape. *Shakefp. Titus Andronicus.*  
 Rape call you it, to seize my own,  
 My true betroth'd love. *Shakefp. Titus Andronicus.*  
 The parliament conceived, that the obtaining of women by  
 force into possession, howsoever afterwards assent might follow  
 by allurements, was but a rape drawn forth in length, because  
 the first force drew on all the rest. *Bacon's Henry VII.*  
 Witnesses that night  
 In Gibeah, when the hospitable door  
 Expos'd a matron, to avoid worse rape. *Milton.*  
 The haughty fair,  
 Who not the rape ev'n of a god could bear.  
 Tell Thracian tyrant's alter'd shape,  
 And dire revenge of Philomela's rape. *Dryden.*  
 2. Privation; act of taking away.  
 Pear grew after pear,  
 Fig after fig came; time made never rape  
 Of any dainty there. *Chapman's Odyssey.*  
 3. Something snatched away.  
 Sad widows by thee rifled, weep in vain,  
 And ruin'd orphans of thy rapes complain. *Sandys.*  
 Where now are all my hopes? oh never more  
 Shall they revive! nor death her rapes restore! *Sandys.*  
 4. The juice of grapes is drawn as well from the rape, or  
 whole grapes pluck'd from the cluster, and wine pour'd upon  
 them in a vessel, as from a vat, where they are bruised. *Ray.*  
 5. A plant, from the seed of which oil is expressed.  
**RAPID**. *adj.* [rapidus, Fr. rapidus, Lat.] Quick; swift.  
 Part shun the goal with rapid wheels. *Milton.*  
 While you so smoothly turn and rowl our sphere,  
 That rapid motion does but rest appear. *Dryden.*  
**RAPIDITY**. *n. f.* [rapidity, Fr. rapiditas, from rapidus, Lat.]  
 Celerity; velocity; swiftness.  
 Where the words are not monosyllables, we make them so  
 by our rapidity of pronunciation. *Addison's Spectator.*  
**RAPIDLY**. *adv.* [from rapid.] Swiftly; with quick motion.  
**RAPIDNESS**. *n. f.* [from rapid.] Celerity; swiftness.  
**RAPIER**. *n. f.* [rapier, Fr. fo called from the quickness of its  
 motion.] A small sword used only in thrusting.  
 I will turn thy falsehood to thy heart,  
 Where it was forged, with my rapier's point. *Shakefp.*  
 A soldier of far inferior strength may manage a rapier or  
 fire-arms so expertly, as to be an overmatch for his adver-  
 sary. *Pope's Essay on Homer's Battles.*  
**RAPIER-FISH**. *n. f.*  
 The rapier-fish, called xiphias, grows sometimes to the  
 length of five yards: the sword, which grows level from the  
 snout of the fish, is here about a yard long, at the basis four  
 inches over, two-edged, and pointed exactly like a rapier:  
 he preys on fishes, having first stabbed them with this  
 sword. *Grew's Museum.*  
**RAPINE**. *n. f.* [rapina, Lat. rapine, Fr.]  
 1. The act of plundering.  
 If the poverty of Scotland might, yet the plenty of Eng-  
 land cannot, excuse the envy and rapine of the church's  
 rights. *King Charles.*  
 The logic of a conquering sword may silence, but con-  
 vince it cannot; its efficacy rather breeds aversion and abhor-  
 rence of that religion, whose first address is in blood and  
 rapine. *Decoy of Piety.*  
 2. Violence; force.  
 Her least action overaw'd  
 His malice, and with rapine sweet bereav'd  
 His fierceness of its fierce intent. *Milton.*  
**RAPPER**. *n. f.* [from rap.] One who strikes.  
**RAPPORT**. *n. f.* [rappat, Fr.] Relation; reference; propor-  
 tion. A word introduced by the innovator, Temple, but not  
 copied by others.  
 'Tis obvious what rapport there is between the conceptions  
 and languages in every country, and how great a difference  
 this must make in the excellence of books. *Temple.*  
**TO RAP**. *v. n.* [this word is used by Chapman for rap impro-  
 perly, as appears from the participle, which from rapt would  
 be not rapt, but rapted.] To ravish; to put in ecstacy.  
 You may safe approve,  
 How strong in infatigation to their love  
 Their rapping tunes are. *Chapman's Odyssey.*  
**RAPT**. *n. f.* [from rap.] A trance; an ecstacy.  
**RAPTURE**. *n. f.*  
 1. Ecstacy; transport; violence of any pleasing passion; en-  
 thusiasm; uncommon heat of imagination.  
 Musick, when thus applied, raises in the mind of the hearer  
 great conceptions; it strengthens devotion, and advances  
 praise into rapture. *Addison's Spectator, N° 406.*  
 You grow correct, that once with rapture writ. *Pope.*

# RAR

2. Rapidity; haste.  
 The wat'ry throng,  
 Wave rowling after wave, where way they found,  
 If steep, with torrent rapture; if through plain  
 Soft-cbbing; nor withstood them rock or hill. *Milton.*  
**RAPTURED**. *adj.* [from rapture.] Ravished; transported.  
 A bad word.  
 He drew  
 Such madd'ning draughts of beauty to the soul,  
 As for a while cancell'd his raptur'd thought  
 With luxury too daring. *Thomson's Summer.*  
**RAPTUROUS**. *adj.* [from rapture.] Ecstasick; transporting.  
 Are the pleasures of it so inviting and rapturous? is a man  
 bound to look out sharp to plague himself? *Collier.*  
**RARE**. *adj.* [rarus, Lat. rare, Fr. in all the senses but the  
 last.]  
 1. Scarce; uncommon.  
 Live to be rare, and gaze o' th' time;  
 We'll have you, as our rarer monsters are,  
 Painted upon a pole. *Shakefp.*  
 2. Excellent; incomparable; valuable to a degree seldom found.  
 This jealousy  
 Is for a precious creature; as she's rare,  
 Must it be great; and as his person's mighty,  
 Must it be violent. *Shakefp. Winter's Tale.*  
 On which was wrought the gods and giants fight,  
 Rare work, all fill'd with terror and delight. *Cowley.*  
 Above the rest I judge one beauty rare. *Dryden.*  
 3. Thinly scattered.  
 The cattle in the fields and meadows green  
 Those rare and solitary, these in flocks  
 Pasturing at once, and in broad herds upspring. *Milton.*  
 4. Thin; subtle; not dense.  
 They are of so tender and weak a nature, as they affect  
 only such a rare and attenuate substance, as the spirit of living  
 creatures. *Bacon's Natural History.*  
 So eagerly the fiend  
 O'er bog or steep, through strait, rough, dense, or rare,  
 With head, hands, wings, or feet, purifies his way. *Mil.*  
 The dense and bright light of the circle will obscure the  
 rare and weak light of these dark colours round about it, and  
 render them almost insensible. *Newton's Opticks.*  
 Bodies are much more rare and porous than is commonly  
 believed: water is nineteen times lighter, and by consequence  
 nineteen times rarer than gold, and gold is so rare, as very  
 readily, and without the least opposition, to transmit the  
 magnetic effluvia, and easily to admit quicksilver into its  
 pores, and to let water pass through it. *Newton's Opticks.*  
 5. Raw; not fully subdued by the fire. This is often pro-  
 nounced rear.  
 New-laid eggs, with Baucis' busy care,  
 Turn'd by a gentle fire, and roasted rare. *Dryden.*  
**RARESHOW**. *n. f.* [this word is formed in imitation of the  
 foreign way of pronouncing rare show.] A show carried in a  
 box.  
 The fashions of the town affect us just like a rareshow, we  
 have the curiosity to peep at them, and nothing more. *Pope.*  
 Of rareshows he lings, and Punch's feats. *Gay.*  
**RAREFACTION**. *n. f.* [rarefactio, Fr. from rarefy.] Exten-  
 sion of the parts of a body, that makes it take up more room  
 than it did before; contrary to condensation.  
 The water within being rarefied, and by rarefaction resolved  
 into wind, will force up the smoke. *Wotton's Architecture.*  
 When exhalations, shut up in the caverns of the earth by  
 rarefaction or compression, come to be straitened, they strive  
 every way to set themselves at liberty. *Burnet.*  
**RAREFIABLE**. *adj.* [from rarefy.] Admitting rarefaction.  
**TO RAREFY**. *v. a.* [rarefier, Fr. rarus and factio, Lat. rarefy  
 were more proper.] To make thin: contrary to condense.  
 To the hot equator crowding fast,  
 Where highly rarefied the yielding air  
 Admits their steam. *Thomson.*  
**TO RAREFY**. *v. n.* To become thin.  
 Earth rarefies to dew; expanded more  
 The subtil dew in air begins to soar. *Dryden's Fables.*  
**RARELY**. *adv.* [from rare.]  
 1. Seldom; not often; not frequently.  
 Rarely they rise by virtue's aid, who lie  
 Plung'd in the depth of helpless poverty. *Dryden's Juven.*  
 Vanella in her bloom,  
 Advanc'd like Atalanta's star,  
 But rarely seen, and seen from far. *Swift's Miscellanies.*  
 2. Finely; nicely; accurately.  
 How rarely does it meet with this time's guise,  
 When man was will'd to love his enemies. *Shakefp.*  
**RARENESS**. *n. f.* [from rare.]  
 Tickling is most in the soles, arm-holes and sides: the  
 cause is the thinness of the skin, joined with the rareness of  
 being touched there; for tickling is a light motion of the spi-  
 rits, which the thinness of the skin, the suddenness and rare-  
 ness of touch doth further. *Bacon.*

# RAS

For the rareness and rare effect of that petition, I'll insert  
 it as presented. *Clarendon.*  
 Of my heart I now a present make;  
 Accept it as when early fruit we send,  
 And let the rareness the small gift commend. *Dryden.*  
 2. Value arising from scarcity.  
 Roses set in a pool, supported with some stay, is matter of  
 rareness and pleasure, though of small use. *Bacon.*  
 To worthiest things,  
 Virtue, art, beauty, fortune, now I see  
 Rareness or use, not nature, value brings. *Donne.*  
**RARITY**. *n. f.* [raritas, Fr. raritas, Lat.]  
 1. Uncommonness; infrequency.  
 So far from being fond of any one for its rarity, if I meet  
 with any in a field which pleases me, I give it a place in my  
 garden. *Spectator.*  
 2. A thing valued for its scarcity.  
 Sorrow would be a rarity most belov'd,  
 If all could so become it. *Shakefp. King Lear.*  
 It would be a rarity worth the seeing, could any one show  
 us such a thing as a perfectly reconciled enemy. *South.*  
 I saw three rarities of different kinds, which pleased me  
 more than any other shows of the place. *Addison.*  
 3. Thinness; subtlety: the contrary to density.  
 Bodies, under the same outward bulk, have a greater thin-  
 ness and expansion, or thickness and solidity, which terms, in  
 English, do not signify fully those differences of quantity; there-  
 fore I will do it under the names of rarity and density. *Digby.*  
 This I do, not to draw any argument against them from  
 the universal rest or accurately equal diffusion of matter, but  
 only that I may better demonstrate the great rarity and tenuity  
 of their imaginary chaos. *Bentley's Sermons.*  
**RASCAL**. *n. f.* [rascal, Saxon, a lean beast.] A mean fel-  
 low; a scoundrel; a sorry wretch.  
 For the rascal commons, leit he cared. *Spenser.*  
 And when him list the rascal routs appal,  
 Men into stones therewith he could transnew. *Fa. Queen.*  
 When Marcus Brutus grows so covetous  
 To lock such rascal counters from his friends:  
 Be ready, gods, with all your thunder-bolts,  
 Dash him to pieces. *Shakefp. Julius Caesar.*  
 The rascal people, thirsting after prey,  
 Join with the traitor. *Shakefp. Henry VI. p. ii.*  
 But for our gentlemen,  
 The mouse ne'er thund' the cat, as they did budge  
 From rascals worse than they. *Shakefp.*  
 I am accus'd to rob in that thief's company; the rascal hath  
 remov'd my horse. *Shakefp. Henry IV. p. i.*  
 Scoundrels are insolent to their superiors; but it does not  
 become a man of honour to contest with mean rascals. *L'Estr.*  
 Did I not see you, rascal, did I not!  
 When you lay snug to inap young Damon's goat? *Dryden.*  
 I have sense, to serve my turn, in store,  
 And he's a rascal who pretends to more. *Dryden's Persius.*  
 The poor girl provoked told him he lyed like a rascal. *Sw.*  
**RASCALION**. *n. f.* [from rascal.] One of the lowest people.  
 That proud dame  
 Us'd him so like a base rascalion,  
 That old pig—what d'ye call him—malion,  
 That cut his mistress out of stone,  
 Had not so hard a hearted one. *Hudibras, p. i.*  
**RASCALITY**. *n. f.* [from rascal.] The low mean people.  
 Pretended philosophers judge as ignorantly in their way,  
 as the rascality in theirs. *Glanvill's Scaph.*  
 Jeroboam having procured his people gods, the next thing  
 was to provide priests; hereupon, to the calves he adds a  
 commission, for the approving, trying and admitting the ras-  
 cality and lowest of the people to minister in that service. *South.*  
**RASCALLY**. *adj.* [from rascal.] Mean; worthless.  
 Wouldst thou not be glad to have the niggardly rascally  
 sheep-biter come by some notable shame. *Shakefp.*  
 Our rascally porter is fallen fast asleep with the black cloth  
 and fconces, or we might have been tacking up by this  
 time. *Swift.*  
**TO RASE**. *v. a.* [this word is written rase or raze: I would  
 write rase, when it signifies to strike slightly, perstringere; and  
 raze, when it signifies to ruin, delere; raser, Fr. rarus, Lat.]  
 1. To skim; to strike on the surface.  
 He certifies your lordship, that this night  
 He dreamt the boar had rased off his helm. *Shakefp.*  
 Was he not in the nearest neighbourhood to death? and  
 might not the bullet, that rased his cheek, have gone into  
 his head. *South's Sermons.*  
 2. To overthrow; to destroy; to root up.  
 Her battering engines bent to raze some city. *Milton.*  
 3. To blot out by rasure; to erase.  
 Though of their names in heav'nly records now  
 Be no memorial, blotted out and rased. *Milton.*  
**RASH**. *adj.* [rash, Dutch.] Hasty; violent; precipitate;  
 acting without caution or reflection.  
 This is to be bold without shame, rash without skill, full of  
 words without wit. *Afchan's Schoolmaster.*  
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